

1989  
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Babs & Loren Padelford  
1405 Little John Rd.  
Bellevue, NE 68005

Documenting Details for Black Scoter

Seen - May 12 at IPL ponds by B.P & B.J. Rose and  
May 13 by B. & L.P.

Time studied on the 12th was approximately one hour; on the 13th approx.  
fifteen minutes. B.J. photographed both Scoters.

Description: The Black Scoter was approx. the same size as the Surf  
Scoter and larger than a Lesser Scaup. Both were present for comparison.  
It was an all dark duck except for a large white patch on each side of  
the face, covering entire cheek area. It had a dark cap on the head.  
Back was a lighter brown than the head and hind neck. It had a definite  
forehead and a rounded head which contrasted to the straight, slanting  
profile of the Surf Scoter. In flight, wings all dark.

At first both Scoters were sleeping. Then they began diving and feeding.  
The birds seemed nervous, as they raised up off the water a couple of  
times and flew around the pond, landing in a different area of the pond  
each time.